

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

00:00:00

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN KARL WAITSCHIES**, on January 19, 2005  
at 9:30 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **Members Present:**

Rep. Karl Waitschies, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Gary Branae, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Bob Lake, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. John Balyeat (R)  
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)  
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)  
Rep. Margaret H. Campbell (D)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)  
Rep. Tom Facey (D)  
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)  
Rep. George G. Groesbeck (D)  
Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)  
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)  
Rep. Jim Peterson (R)  
Rep. Holly Raser (D)  
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)  
Rep. Scott Sales (R)  
Rep. Bill Warden (R)  
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

##### **Members Excused:**

Rep. Carol Lambert (R)

##### **Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch  
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 296, 1/14/2005

Executive Action:

**HEARING ON HB 296**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:28 REP. MIKE JOPEK (D), HD 4, opened the hearing on  
HB 296, Allow municipalities to impose the local  
option gas tax -- expand use of tax.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:47 Alec Hansen, Montana League of Cities & Towns,  
Inc.

00:09:24 L. Harold Blattie, Assistant Director, Montana  
Association of Counties

[EXHIBIT\(tah14a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah14a02\)](#)

00:13:49 REP. BUTCHER questions Witness Blattie

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:15:24 Ronna Alexander, Executive Director, Montana  
Petroleum Marketers & Convenience Store  
Association

00:21:38 Cary Hegreberg, Executive Director, Montana  
Contractors' Association, Inc.

00:24:39 Gail Abercrombie, Executive Director, Montana  
Petroleum Association

**Informational Testimony:** None.

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:26:35 REP. McALPIN

00:29:26 REP. FACEY

00:31:06 REP. WISEMAN

00:33:31 REP. COHENOUR

00:36:44 CHAIRMAN WAITSCHIES

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:38:34 REP. MIKE JOPEK (D), closed the hearing on HB 296.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:15 A.M.

00:39:57

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REP. KARL WAITSCHIES, Chairman

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DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

KW/DP

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([tah14aad0.TIF](#))**